

Sample Questions for the Detention Enforcement Officer Test

SAMPLE QUESTIONS

This booklet shows the types of questions found in the written test you will take for selection as a Detention Enforcement Officer. Some of the questions on the test will be harder and some will be easier than those shown here.

Name and Number Comparisons

In each of these questions, you will find listed **across** the page three names or numbers that are very similar. You should decide which ones are exactly alike. Choose the correct response from A, B, C, D, or E listed below.

- A) if ALL THREE names or numbers are exactly ALIKE
- B) if only the FIRST and SECOND names or numbers are exactly ALIKE
- C) if only the FIRST and THIRD names or numbers are exactly ALIKE
- D) if only the SECOND and THIRD names or numbers are exactly ALIKE
- E) if ALL THREE names and numbers are DIFFERENT

Sample questions 1 through 10 are examples of the name and number comparison questions in the test.

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | Davis Hazen | David Hozen | David Hazen |
| 2. | Lois Appel | Lois Appel | Lois Apfel |
| 3. | June Allan | Jane Allan | Jane Allan |
| 4. | Emily Neal Rouse | Emily Neal Rowse | Emily Neal Rowse |
| 5. | H. Merritt Audubon | H. Merriott Audubon | H. Merritt Audubon |
| 6. | 6219354 | 6219354 | 6219354 |
| 7. | 2312793 | 2312793 | 2312793 |
| 8. | 1065407 | 1065407 | 1065047 |
| 9. | 3457988 | 3457986 | 3457986 |
| 10. | 4695682 | 4695862 | 4695682 |

The correct responses for questions 1 through 10 are:

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. E | 6. A |
| 2. B | 7. A |
| 3. D | 8. B |
| 4. D | 9. D |
| 5. C | 10. C |

Reading Questions

In each of these questions, you will be given a paragraph which contains all the information necessary to infer the correct answer. Use **only** the information provided in the paragraph. Do not speculate or make assumptions that go beyond this information. Also, assume that all information given in the paragraph is true, even if it conflicts with some fact known to you.

Pay special attention to negated verbs (for example, “are not”) and negative prefixes (for example, “Incomplete” or “disorganized”). Also pay special attention to quantifiers, such as “all,” “none,” and “some.” For example, from a paragraph in which it is stated that “it is not true that all contracts are legal,” one can validly conclude that “some contracts are not legal,” or that “some contracts are illegal,” or that “some illegal things are contracts,” but one **cannot** validly conclude that “no contracts are legal,” or that “some contracts are legal.” Similarly, from a paragraph that states “all contracts are legal” and “all contracts are two-sided agreements,” one can validly conclude that “some two-sided agreements are legal,” but one **cannot** validly conclude that “all two-sided agreements are legal.”

Keep in mind that, in some employment tests or college entrance exams, universal quantifiers such as “all” and “none” often give away incorrect response choices. That is **not** the case in this test. Some correct answers will refer to “all” or “none” of the members of a group.

In some questions you will be asked to select the only answer that can be validly concluded from the paragraph. These questions provide a paragraph followed by either “*The paragraph supports the statement that*” or “*From the information given above, it can be validly concluded that*” (both phrases have the same meaning) and five response options. In other questions you may be asked to select the only answer that cannot be validly concluded from the paragraph. These questions provide a paragraph followed by either “*The paragraph does **NOT** support the statement that*” or “*From the information given above, it **CANNOT** be validly concluded that*” (both phrases have the same meaning) and five response options.

Be sure to distinguish between essential information and unessential, peripheral information. That is to say, in a real test question, the example above (“all contracts are legal” and “all contracts are two-sided agreements”) would appear in a longer, full-fledged paragraph. It would be up to you to separate the essential information from its context and then to realize

that a response choice that states “some two-sided agreements are legal” represents a valid conclusion and hence the correct answer.

Sample questions 11 and 12 are examples of the reading questions in the test.

11. Impressions made by the ridges on the ends of the fingers and thumbs are useful means of identification, since no two persons have the same pattern of ridges. If finger patterns from fingerprints are not decipherable, then they cannot be classified by general shape and contour or by pattern type. If they cannot be classified by these characteristics, then it is impossible to identify the person to whom the fingerprints belong.

From the information given above, it can be validly concluded that

- A) if it is impossible to identify the person to whom fingerprints belong, then the fingerprints are not decipherable
- B) if finger patterns from fingerprints are not decipherable, then it is impossible to identify the person to whom the fingerprints belong
- C) if fingerprints are decipherable, then it is impossible to identify the person to whom they belong
- D) if fingerprints can be classified by general shape and contour or by pattern type, then they are not decipherable
- E) if it is possible to identify the person to whom fingerprints belong, then the fingerprints cannot be classified by general shape and contour or pattern

The correct answer is response B. The essential information from which the answer can be inferred is contained in the second and third sentences of the paragraph. These sentences state that “if finger patterns from fingerprints are not decipherable, then they cannot be classified by general shape and contour or by pattern type. If they cannot be classified by these characteristics, then it is impossible to identify the person to whom they belong.” Since response B refers to a condition in which finger patterns from fingerprints are not decipherable, we know that, in that circumstance, they cannot be classified by general shape and contour or by pattern type. From the paragraph, we can infer that, since they cannot be classified by these characteristics, it is impossible to identify the person to whom the fingerprints belong.

Response A cannot be inferred because the paragraph does not give information about all the circumstances under which it is impossible to identify the person to whom the fingerprints belong. It may be that the person is not identifiable for reasons other than the decipherability of the person’s fingerprints.

Response C is incorrect because the paragraph does not provide enough information to conclude whether or not it would be possible to identify the person to whom the fingerprints belong from the mere fact of the decipherability of the fingerprints.

Response D is wrong because it contradicts the information in the second sentence of the paragraph. From that sentence, it can be concluded that, if fingerprints can be classified by general shape and contour or by pattern type, they are decipherable.

Response E is incorrect for a similar reason; it contradicts the information presented in the third sentence of the paragraph.

12. Law enforcement agencies use scientific techniques to identify suspects or to establish guilt. One obvious application of such techniques is the examination of a crime scene. Some substances found at a crime scene yield valuable clues under microscopic examination. Clothing fibers, dirt particles, and even pollen grains may reveal important information to the careful investigator. Nothing can be overlooked because all substances found at a crime scene are potential sources of evidence.

The paragraph supports the statement that

- A) all substances that yield valuable clues under microscopic examination are substances found at a crime scene
- B) some potential sources of evidence are substances that yield valuable clues under microscopic examination
- C) some substances found at a crime scene are not potential sources of evidence
- D) no potential sources of evidence are substances found at a crime scene
- E) some substances that yield valuable clues under microscopic examination are not substances found at a crime scene

The correct answer is response B. The essential information from which the answer can be inferred is contained in the third and fifth sentences of the paragraph. The third sentence tells us that “some substances found at a crime scene yield valuable clues under microscopic examination.” The fifth sentence explains that “. . .all substances found at a crime scene are potential sources of evidence.” Therefore, we can conclude that “some potential sources of evidence are substances that yield valuable clues under microscopic examination.”

Response A cannot be inferred because the paragraph does not support the statement that all substances which yield valuable clues are found exclusively at a crime scene. It may be that valuable clues could be found elsewhere.

Responses C and D are incorrect because they contradict the fifth sentence of the paragraph which clearly states that “all substances found at a crime scene are potential sources of evidence.”

Response E is incorrect because the paragraph provides no information about the value of substances found somewhere other than at the crime scene.

Arithmetic Reasoning Questions

In this part of the test, you will have to solve problems formulated in both verbal and numeric form. You will have to analyze a paragraph in order to set up the problem and then solve it. If the exact answer is not given as one of the response choices, you should select response E, “none of these.” Sample questions 13 and 14 are examples of the arithmetic reasoning questions in this test. The use of calculators will **NOT** be permitted during the test; therefore, they should not be used to solve these sample questions.

13. A police department purchases badges at \$16 each for all the graduates of the police training academy. The last training class graduated 10 new officers. What is the total amount of money the department will spend for badges for these new officers?

A) \$ 70
B) \$116
C) \$160
D) \$180
E) none of these

The correct response is C. It can be obtained by computing the following: $16 \times 10 = 160$

The badges are priced at \$16 each. The department must purchase 10 of them for the new officers. Multiplying the price of one badge (\$16) by the number of graduates (10) gives the total price for all of the badges.

Responses A, B, and D are the result of erroneous computations.

14. An investigator rented a car for six days and was charged \$450. The car rental company charged \$35 per day plus \$0.30 per mile driven. How many miles did the investigator drive the car?

A) 800
B) 900
C) 1,290
D) 1,500
E) none of these

The correct answer is A. It can be obtained by computing the following:

$$6(35) + 0.30X = 450$$

The investigator rented the car for six days at \$35 per day, which is \$210; \$210 subtracted from the total charge of \$450 leaves \$240, the portion of the total charge which was expended for the miles driven. This amount, divided by the charge per mile ($\$240/0.30$), gives the number of miles (800) driven by the investigator.

Responses B, C, and D are the result of erroneous computations.